

ARKWRIGHT SOCIETY ACADEMIC CONFERENCE 2019



A Philosopher Giving a Lecture on an Orrery, in which a Lamp Is put in the Place of the Sun, by Joseph Wright of Derby, c.1766.

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Saturday 28th September, 2019

Industry and Society in the Industrial Revolution.

Cromford, the Derwent Valley and Beyond.

An Academic Conference with leading experts on the Industrial Revolution hosted at Sir Richard Arkwright's Cromford Mills in the Derwent Valley Mills World Heritage Site.

ARKWRIGHT SOCIETY

AT SIR RICHARD ARKWRIGHT'S CROMFORD MILLS

INTRODUCTION

Where did the inventors in the industrial revolution and later get their ideas from? How did they interact with enlightenment views of the world and change economic behaviour and growth in the UK for ever?

The 6th Arkwright Society Conference on the Industrial Revolution takes place on Saturday 28 September at the iconic Arkwright Mills in Cromford, Derbyshire. Leading Academic experts on the Industrial Revolution, including Professors from Oxford and Derby Universities, will speak about the time when the whole world was looking to Great Britain, as it led in developing new machinery, new systems of work and new ways of living in society. We can still see the effect of these changes today, 250 years later.

At the heart of this time was a fever of intellectual and practically focussed thinking on science and technology, when scientists and academics worked with a new breed of business men, turning ideas into money and revitalising the British economy. Derby, Derbyshire and the Midlands played a vital role in this transformative period.

Conference Topics include: The Derby Philosophers; Britain, the Industrial Revolution and Modern Economic Growth; the next wave of technological change in cotton spinning; Arkwright's patents; the Cromford Canal, and Florence Nightingale in Derbyshire.



BACKGROUND TO THE DERWENT VALLEY

The Derwent Valley Mills World Heritage Site, often called the *“cradle of the factory system”*, saw water power applied to a series of complex mechanised processes for the first time on a relatively large scale. New types of mill buildings were needed to house the new technology and large-scale production. With this mechanical revolution, came also the need to change the way people worked and to make provision of housing and other facilities for workers, leading to the first modern industrial towns.

Parallel development of canals, railways, roads and other historic infrastructure also played a vital role.

Sir Richard Arkwright's mills in Cromford stimulated a surge of industrial growth along the Derwent Valley. Arkwright built his original mill in 1771 - the world's first successful water powered cotton spinning mill. The mills at Cromford with their new machinery, large workforce and factory village became a model for others to follow throughout Britain and abroad. For the Victorians, who learnt so much from his example, Arkwright earned the accolade *‘Father of the factory system’*.

JOIN US HERE AT CROMFORD MILLS, IN THE HEART OF THE DERWENT VALLEY MILLS WORLD HERITAGE SITE

PROGRAMME

09.30-10.15 Registration, Coffee and Tea

10.15 Simon Wallwork (CEO of the Arkwright Society)

WELCOME AND INTRODUCTION

10.30 Professor Paul Elliott

SCIENCE, INDUSTRY AND ENLIGHTENMENT, THE DERBY PHILOSOPHERS.



Professor Paul Elliott, Professor of Modern History, Derby University. Visiting Lecturer Nottingham University. Research interests and publications span history, cultural and historical geography, the history of education and the history of science and he has a strong focus on outreach into the community. Paul is a member of the Derwent Valley Mills World Heritage Site Research and Publications

Committee. Books include *The Derby Philosophers: Science and Culture in British Urban Society 1700-1850* (2009), *Enlightenment, Modernity and Science* (2010) and *The British Arboretum* (2011). The *Independent* newspaper recently describe Paul as: 'One of the country's leading historians of British Gardens'.

11.30 Professor Stephen Broadberry

BRITAIN, THE INDUSTRIAL REVOLUTION AND MODERN ECONOMIC GROWTH.



Oxford Professor of Economic History and President of the Economic History Society, based at Nuffield College Oxford. Stephen previously taught at the London School of Economics, Warwick and Cardiff Universities and has held numerous visiting positions including at the University of California, Berkeley, and the Humboldt University in Berlin. He has written widely on the history of the British Economy

including on the Economics of World War 1, British Economic Growth 1270-1870, and co-edited the Cambridge Economic History of Modern Europe. (2010).

12.30 Lunch

13.30 Dr Peter Maw

AFTER THE GREAT INVENTIONS: TECHNOLOGICAL CHANGE IN BRITISH COTTON SPINNING, 1780-1830.



Lecturer at Leeds University, and lead for the MA in Social and Cultural History. Previously worked at Manchester Metropolitan and Northumbria University, after undergraduate and postgraduate studies at Manchester University. His research focuses on the northern English textile regions in the 'Long Eighteenth Century'. He published 'Transport and the Industrial City: Manchester and the Canal Age 1750-

1850 (2013) and is currently working to identify and analyse all cotton-spinning mills built in Britain between 1770 and 1850.

14.45 Alternative seminars

GOTHIC WAREHOUSE - GROUND FLOOR

SEMINAR A:

Steve Boothroyd

ARKWRIGHT'S PATENTS AND THEIR LEGAL CHALLENGES.



Steve Boothroyd will discuss the two patents granted to Arkwright in 1769 and 1775, and review the three key court cases associated with Arkwright's second patent that led to its annulment in 1785. Steve has been a guide at Cromford Mills for 5 years; prior to this he worked in various scientific roles at Boots the Chemists, including a period as Patents Manager.

GOTHIC WAREHOUSE - FIRST FLOOR
PLEASE NOTE ACCESS BY STAIRS ONLY

SEMINAR B:

Hugh Potter

RICHARD ARKWRIGHT, THE GELLS AND CROMFORD CANAL.



Hugh Potter looks at the often turbulent and troubled relationship between the main promoters of the canal and Sir Richard

Arkwright, as major local landowner and businessman, which reveals much about Arkwright's cantankerous character that is often overlooked in the telling of his story.

15.45 Refreshments, Coffee and Tea

16.00 Dr Richard Bates

FLORENCE NIGHTINGALE AT HOME IN DERBYSHIRE.



Research Fellow, Nottingham University. His current research is part of a project for the 200th Anniversary of Florence Nightingale's birth, exploring her connections to Derbyshire and the wider East Midlands, through the lens of gender and social class and seeking to place Florence and her family in the industrial history of Derbyshire and wider international and colonial histories.

17.00 Concluding remarks / Conference close

TICKETS AND FURTHER INFORMATION

All day Saturday conference £45 per head including lunch and refreshments.
Arkwright Society members receive discount on full value tickets.

EARLY BIRD CHARGE - £40

Buy your ticket before 31st August

Telephone: 01629 823256 or email: conference@arkwrightsociety.org.uk

The Arkwright Society,
Sir Richard Arkwright's Cromford Mills,
Mill Lane, Cromford, Matlock,
Derbyshire, DE4 3RQ
www.cromfordmills.org.uk



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AT SIR RICHARD ARKWRIGHT'S CROMFORD MILLS

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REGISTRATION FORM

Please return this form to:

The Conference Officer, The Arkwright Society, Sir Richard Arkwright's Cromford Mills,
Mill Lane, Cromford, Matlock, Derbyshire, DE4 3RQ

Or email: conference@arkwrightsociety.org.uk

I wish to attend the Arkwright Society Academic Conference on
Saturday 28th September, 2019.

Name:

Address:

Post Code:

Tel Number:

Email:

EARLY BIRD TICKET PRICE before 31st August, 2019 £40

(number of
tickets)

Ticket price after 31st August, 2019 £45

(number of
tickets)

Arkwright Society members receive 15% discount on full value ticket.

Other information: vegetarian (please
tick)

Other dietary requirements please specify:

Method of payment: Cash/Card Cheque BACS (please
tick)

I enclose a cheque for £ made payable to 'The Arkwright Society'.

To pay with credit card telephone The Arkwright Society Reception Services on
01629 823256. Alternatively for BACS transfer - Lloyds Bank Sort: 30-90-25
Acc: 22613068 with Reference IRC / your surname. Thank you.

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AT SIR RICHARD ARKWRIGHT'S CROMFORD MILLS